

BARSTOW LOG

SUPPORTING MCLB'S VISION FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

Vol. 7, No. 4

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California

January 30, 2003

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Check out the Marine Corps Web site.

<http://www.usmc.mil>

Tax season kicks off

By Sgt. Joseph Lee
BARSTOW LOG staff

All active-duty and retired service members as well as their dependants are eligible to receive tax assistance from the annual Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program that kicked off Monday and will continue through April 15.

The VITA program, coordinated by the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, has six volunteers working with the OSJA staff to help qualified people prepare and file their 2002 tax returns.

The team of tax preparers has undergone intensive courses of training by the Internal Revenue Service and a commercial tax preparation firm to provide not only tax preparation but also free electronic tax filing to provide a return in as fast as seven to 10 days, according to Jacque Fadeley, paralegal specialist with the OSJA.

"If you are single, have no dependants, earn under \$50,000 annually, and have less than \$400 in interest from loans, you may qualify to file a 1040EZ," said Fadeley. If you are a 1040EZ filer, you can be seen on a walk-in basis during the first week of services from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

After the initial week of walk-in EZ filers, the OSJA will be accepting appointments for qualified taxpayers from Feb. 3 through April 15.

According to Fadeley, after Feb. 3, those needing assistance can call the OSJA at 577-6874 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays, to make an appointment to have their tax return prepared.

"We sent our first return ... and everything transmitted well, so we know it's all up and running," said Fadeley. "We have all the updates downloaded and all the states' information downloaded."

The OSJA has maintained an error rate of less than one percent for tax filings since 1998, and plans to top the 270 returns filed last year, according to Fadeley.

In order to complete tax returns in just one visit, a few documents are required for taxpayers to bring when arriving for an appointment:

See TAX Page 10



Photo by Master Sgt. Phil Mehringer

A smoking barrel was evident as preservative evaporated from a soviet-era manufactured weapon Jan. 22 during the Georgian Train and Equip Program in Tbilisi, Georgia. See related story on Page 5.

DOD employees and military members must get new ID cards

By Sgt. Joseph Lee
BARSTOW LOG staff

All active-duty service members and DOD civilian employees must replace their current ID cards with the new Common Access Card, more commonly known as the "smart card," by October, according to MarAdmin 387/02.

The CAC has been in the testing process for the last three years and is now replacing all forms of DOD identification as the standard ID, according to Susan Durant, military personnel clerk with the Pass and ID office here.

"Because the CAC is being actively used as the standard ID on many higher security installations for building access, the DOD is requiring all applicable personnel to upgrade to the new ID by the end of this fiscal year," said Durant.

The new ID card will have the capability to perform a multitude of functions the old ID cards could not.

"Right now, the cards are being

used to allow personnel easy access to secure locations around the Marine Corps, and in the near future the cards will also be used to access your computer, possibly even your office building," said Durant.

In order to accomplish these tasks, the new cards are equipped with some new features. An updateable pin-protected computer chip embedded into the card stores information such as name, gender, benefits and privileges information for military, digital certificates, and other application-specific data.

The magnetic strip on the rear of the card will contain primarily building access information. Two different barcodes store personal information such as pay grade, organizational affiliation, date of birth and social security number.

The CAC will be issued to active-duty service members, selected reservists, DOD civilian employees and eligible contractor personnel. The CAC will not be issued to family members, retirees, disabled American veterans,

inactive ready reserve and inactive guard personnel. These individuals will continue to receive the current ID card.

According to Durant, there have been some complications concerning the civilian version of the ID card.

"As it turns out, the civilian version doesn't have any personal information on the back, such as a person's age. So the civilian version of the CAC cannot be used as proof of age," said Durant. "The military version of the card contains all the same information as the old ID, so they should be accepted as a valid form of identification."

Another difference in the civilian version of the card is the expiration date. Though the current civilian ID card has an indefinite expiration date, all CAC holders will be required to renew their card once every three years.

To get the new CAC, individuals may set up an appointment with Susan Durant at the Pass and ID office by calling 577-6969.

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<https://www.barstow.usmc.mil>

December 2002 safety summary

ALMAR 004/03 Headquarters Marine Corps

During the month of December 2002, 14 Marines died in on- and off-duty accidents, two Marines died in apparent suicides, and 10 Marines suffered significant injuries. The following is a summary of casualties for the month of December 2002:

Fatalities

Four Marines died in on-duty accidents this month. A sergeant from 2nd TSB, driving his private vehicle, died after a head-on collision with a 7-ton truck aboard base. A recruit from C Company, 1st Battalion, MCRD San Diego died while in the hospital after experiencing chest pains during swim training. A corporal from

HMM-166, last seen washing an AV-8 aboard ship, was lost at sea after falling overboard. A lieutenant colonel (USMCR) participating in a unit exercise died from heart failure during the exercise.

Ten Marines died in off-duty accidents this month. Seven of the nine deaths involved automobiles, and another two were attributed to motorcycle accidents.

These accidents could have been prevented. Speed, fatigue, and a lack of situational awareness played a significant role in many of the accidents.

A corporal from 2nd LAR Battalion speeding down the highway, tried unsuccessfully to pass another vehicle, before ditching his vehicle and hitting numerous trees. Speed and a failure

to wear his seatbelt were contributing factors. A private first class from 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines "traveling alone" went off the road in his private vehicle for no apparent reason. He died of injuries sustained in the crash. Alcohol (BAC of 0.16) and fatigue were contributing factors.

A private on leave en route to motor transport school crossed the median and collided head-on with a vehicle traveling in the opposite direction.

Fatigue was a contributing factor to his death and the death of the two unsuspecting civilians occupying the other vehicle.

Another private, also from MARDET Fort Leonard Wood, fell asleep while driving alone and drifted off the road. He awoke, overcor-

rected and rolled his vehicle several times. He was pronounced dead on the scene. Again, fatigue was a contributing factor.

Two lance corporals from 1st Battalion, 6th Marines, reportedly one-quarter mile from their destination, never made it home for the holidays. They failed to negotiate a turn and struck a tree, causing their vehicle to explode. Speed, fatigue, or both were the likely contributing factors. Driving fatigued makes you a danger to yourself as well as others.

Another two Marines died in separate motor vehicle accidents. A gunnery sergeant from 7th Marines was struck from the rear by a vehicle driven by a Navy corpsman, killing him instantly.

See **SAFETY** Page 10

Our actions affect others

By **Lt. Cmdr. Randel Livingood**
Base Chaplain



Have you ever known people who have had a dramatic personality change?

Like someone who may have been very pleasant to be around and then suddenly became unpleasant to be with?

Or maybe they were people who had been very trusting and then suddenly became cynical?

If you have seen those kinds of things happen to people, have you ever wondered what happened to them?

What is it that is so powerful that it can change a person's life? I certainly have seen that in people in the church.

As a chaplain, I have spoken with many who at one time were very pleased and happy to be in worship and then, at some point in their lives, became displeased and cynical about church and worship altogether.

After speaking with so many people like that, I have had the opportunity to reflect on what was said and almost without fail the things

that are able to turn people in one direction or another are the actions of other people.

I cannot think of a single case where a person has left the church or stopped being trusting, or has become cynical or jaded that was not brought about by another human being.

I don't suppose that is a big surprise to most people, but in this time of being aware, or Epiphany as we religious folks call it, it pays to look a little bit harder at the roll we play in other people's lives.

I think sometimes we get the impression that what we do does not affect others. Kind of a carry over from the days when it was popular to say, "I'll do as I wish; it is not hurting anyone else."

The reality, however, seems to be that what we do does affect other people and often in dramatic ways.

We just don't realize how important we are in other people's lives. Maybe if we did we would be a little more careful about how we act and what we do.

I believe that most would not want to accept the blame for taking someone who was trusted and turning them into a cynical, jaded person.

See **CHAPLAIN** Page 10

Just doing my job ...

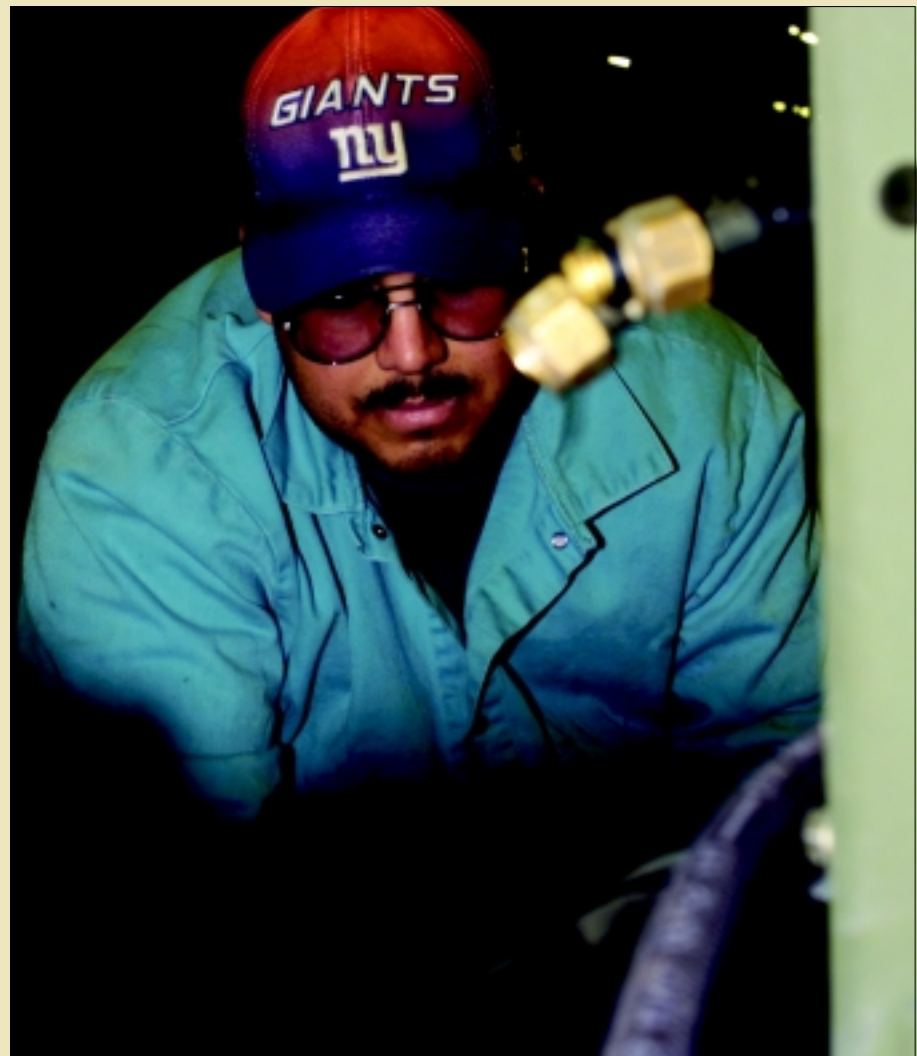


Photo by Rob Jackson

Raul Reyes, heavy mobile equipment mechanic, Cost Work Center 714, Maintenance Center Barstow, works on the ABS modification for the MK48. Reyes has been employed at MCB since 1995, but has only been on the MK48 line for about a year.

Chapel Services

Protestant Sun. 8:30 a.m.
Mass Sun. 10:30 a.m.

**Confession services
before Mass**

Catholic Rosary

First Saturday of
every month.
3 p.m. at the **Base Chapel**.

For more info call
577-6849.

Nebo Bible Study

Wednesday Noon-1:30 p.m.

At the **Chapel Office**.

For more info call
577-6849.



Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, California
Colonel Ingrid E. Bergman, Commanding Officer



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For information on advertising in **BARSTOW LOG**, contact Paul Kinison of Aerotech News, Lancaster, Calif., phone: (661) 945-5634.

News Briefs

"News Briefs" is designed to disseminate information to the MCLB Barstow community. Submissions should include a point of contact and phone number, and be received by noon Thursdays for the next week's issue. Submit news briefs via e-mail to editor@barstow.usmc.mil.

Clinic short of staff

On Jan. 15, 12 corpsmen from the Branch Medical Clinic reported to the Division Surgeons Office at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton to augment the medical platforms at various Marine divisions in support of operational commitments.

This has left the Branch Medical Clinic at 40 percent of its normal staff. The clinic will continue to support its primary mission, which is active-duty service members and their families, and will see retirees and their families on a space-available basis.

Personnel strength at the Branch Medical Clinic is scheduled to increase in approximately one week. For more information, call the Branch Medical Clinic at 577-6491 ext. 103.

PME Survey

Headquarters Marine Corps is looking for input from gunnery sergeants through sergeants major and captains through colonels in an on-line survey about command sponsored corporals courses.

The survey will be administered on-line now through Feb. 7 at www.mcu.usmc.mil/mcu/surveys/epme.htm.

The survey takes approximately 15 minutes to complete. Comprehensive and honest input by all participants is essential to the Marine Corps' ability to offer PME programs that meet the needs of the Department of Defense, the Marine Corps, and the individual Marine.

W-2 forms now online

W-2 forms are now available online for active-duty and reserve service members. The Web address to find the W-2 forms is www.dfas.mil/mypay. W-2 forms can also be printed off from up to four years ago. Service members will still receive a hard copy of their W-2s.

If service members do not currently have an account with myPay, they can go to the Web site and select the option for a new PIN. The process will issue a new random temporary PIN for their account, which will be mailed to their home of record currently contained in the pay system.

Travers Scholarship

The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Travers Scholarship and Loan program applications and deadline information for the academic year of 2003-2004 are available at www.nmcrs.org. The program is open to children of active-duty service members.

Scholarships for Military Children Program

The 2003 Scholarships for Military Children program opened for business Nov. 1, and the deadline for returning applications is Feb 21. This year's essay question is "how has being the child of a military service member influenced your educational goals?" It's a question applicants should consider carefully when applying for the \$1,500 scholarships.

The scholarship program is open to dependent unmarried children (under the age of 23) of active-duty personnel, Reserve, Guard and retired military. Applicants should ensure that they, as well as their sponsor, are currently enrolled in the DEERS database and that they have a current identification card. All applicants must be citizens of the United States.

The applicant must be planning to attend, or already attending, an accredited college or university full-time in the fall term of 2003. Students attending a community college must be enrolled in a program of studies designed to transfer directly into a four-year program. Applications for the 2003 program can be downloaded from

www.commissaries.com or www.fisherhouse.org. They can also be picked up at any commissary.

Naval Institute Contest

Feb. 15 is the deadline for the U.S. Naval Institute's Vincent Astor Memorial Leadership Essay Contest and the Tom Bartlett Marine Corps Photo Contest. For the Vincent Astor Memorial Leadership Essay Contest the first place winner will receive \$1,500, a Naval Institute gold medal, and life membership in the Naval Institute.

The second winner receives \$1,000 and a silver medal. There are two third-place awards, and each winner will receive \$500 and a bronze medal. The essay for the Vincent Astor contest must be 3,500 words maximum, and the topic can be any subject relating to leadership in the sea services. This contest is open to U.S. Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard officers, regular and reserve, in pay grades O-1 – O-3, and officer trainees within one year of receiving their commissions. The first-place winner's essay will be published in June Proceedings.

The first-place winner for the Tom Bartlett Marine Corps Photo Contest will receive \$500, second prize receives \$200 (two awards) and third prize is \$100 (three awards).

The topic is related to any Marine Corps subject, not limited to the calendar year of the contest. The Tom Bartlett contest is open to all amateur and professional photographers, and the winning entries will be published in the November Proceedings.

Go to www.navalinstitute.org for complete rules and information. Do not miss this opportunity to compete.

Science Fair judges needed

The Barstow Unified School District is looking for military and civilian volunteers to judge science fairs



at area schools during February.

This is an outstanding opportunity to get involved in a community relations program MCLB Barstow has supported since 1995.

Previous judges from the base not only provided parity to the very important judging process, but it enabled them to make a positive impact on students who are at an impressionable age.

Because it is unlikely that every volunteer will be able to judge at every school, about 12 volunteers are needed. Volunteers, with the approval of their supervisors, should individually contact 1st Lt. Michael Smith at 577-6726, or Gunnery Sgt. Tad Snidecor at 577-5809. Additionally, volunteers should anticipate attending a "briefing/training" session on Feb 3 or 4.

Civilian Service Pin authorized

The commandant of the Marine Corps has authorized the creation and distribution of a Marine Corps Civilian Service Pin. This pin will identify employees as Civilian Marines and serve as a visible expression of the appreciation for their hard work and sacrifice for the Marine Corps.

It is Gen. Michael W. Hagee's intention that the Civilian Marine service pin is given to each Civilian Marine from entry level to senior executive service. The pins are now available and distribution can be arranged

through the Human Resources Office beginning in February. The pin will be issued to new employees when they have completed orientation or to current employees upon certification of their years of service to the Marine Corps. The Marine Corps Civilian Service Pin is to be worn by all Civilian Marines with honor and in the knowledge the Marine Corps is a better organization because of their contributions and dedication.

40-mile racers sought

Break out the running shoes and get ready for the 8th Annual Veteran's Home Relay Run scheduled for March 22. The course is a grueling 40-mile stretch that starts at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin's fitness center and ends at the Veterans Home of California-Barstow. The event is a team relay race where each team member will run a two-mile leg.

Whether using the run to represent MCLB Barstow, get in shape for the PFT, support the local community, or just for the fun of it, all participants are welcome. MCLB is slated to field two teams – Gold and Scarlet. The Gold team will be the competitive entry, and the Scarlet team will be the recreational entry.

Any MCLB Barstow Marine or sailor is welcome to join. For more information, contact 1st Lt. Jason Kut, MCLB team coordinator at 577-7611.

Job Watch

Ann No.	Title/Series/Grade	Open	Close	1st Cutoff	Location
DEU-141-02-NR	Family Services Counselor GS-0101-11	01-10-03	02-10-03	01-14-03	MCLB Barstow
DEU-112-03-NR	Child Development Director GS-1701-09	01/16/03	01/31/03	01/21/03	MCLB Barstow

Applicants interested in announcements beginning with DEA or OTR should submit their résumé to:

Human Resources Service Center, Southwest
ATTN: Code 522 (announcement number)
525 B Street, Suite 600
San Diego, CA 92101-4418

For more information concerning public job announcements visit the Self-Service Center, Building 326, Mondays through Fridays from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. or call the Human Resources Office, 577-6357.

If you have Internet access, browse to <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov>.

For information regarding Open Continuous Merit Promotion announcements point your browser to <http://www.donhr.navy.mil>.

This is not an official list. Please see the Web sites listed for a complete list.

Secretary of the Navy bids farewell

ALMAR 07/03
Headquarters Marine Corps

In leaving this wonderful institution, I am reminded that we in the naval service are heirs to 227 years of history in which sailors and Marines live and perpetuate our most cherished treasure - patriotic duty to America. To all the men and women in this great service - military and civilian alike - you personify a tireless American spirit that finds hope on every new horizon.

Your service to America's purpose and security is as vital as ever. Today, we face an unprecedented array of difficult and dangerous challenges around the world. Following our strong president, Americans everywhere are rising to this historic moment using diplomatic, financial, humanitarian, and, when necessary, our military might to protect and advance human dignity and freedom.

Every day when I walk into my office, three paintings constantly remind me of the life of consequence that you have chosen. On one wall is a rendition of USS Constitution - Old Ironsides - engaged in the U.S. Navy's first major victory at sea in the War of 1812. When I look up from my



desk, I see Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz standing on the deck of USS Missouri as if he is carefully watching the decisions made in this office. Finally, behind my desk is a painting that depicts brave Marines and the Navy corpsman raising the American flag at Iwo Jima.

Coincidentally, my office faces the Iwo Jima Memorial. Felix De Weldon, the memorial's renowned sculptor, best captured our nation's challenges and the Americans who rise to meet them when he said, "Fortunately for this great nation of ours, we have been blessed through heritage and tradition by a limited

number of great men, thus far adequate in numbers to our nation's needs in time of great stress." His words still ring true today for those who wear the cloth of the nation and the two strong leaders of this department, the chief of naval operations, Admiral Vern Clark, and the new commandant of the Marine Corps, General Mike Hagee. With them in your vanguard, Admiral Clark and General Hagee are shining champions who deal hope for all of us. This team tradition is the lasting legacy of Admiral Clark and General Jim Jones, General Hagee's predecessor.

From Old Ironsides to Enduring Freedom, brave Americans never rest in defending our ideals, principles, and values. For that noble duty, I thank you. As your spirit is tireless, my gratitude is timeless. I will worry about you when you face danger and I will salute you when you prevail. I will marvel at your achievements and I will gain strength from your example. But after all is said and done, when I take my leave on January 23, I will miss you. God bless you and your families, God bless the Department of the Navy and God bless America.

The Honorable Gordon R. England, Secretary of the Navy.



Photo by Sgt. Joseph Lee

Staff Sgt. Shane Lopresto, EOCC manager with the Public Safety Office, catches a pass in mid-air to help the officer and staff NCO team secure victory over the sergeants and below team Friday morning during Headquarters Battalion's Super Bowl Challenge.

GTEP, a unique mission for the Corps

By Master Sgt. Phil Mehringer
Marine Forces Europe

Marines recently arrived in the country of Georgia to participate in a program designed to train and equip selected units of the Georgian military. The Georgian Train and Equip Program (GTEP) will have Marines in Georgia for more than a year.

"The program is a coordinated effort between the governments of the United States and Georgia to provide a higher degree of protection and stability to the citizens of Georgia and the region," said Maj. Scott Campbell, Task Force GTEP commander.

In recent years the government of Georgia has been criticized by the government of Russia for not properly protecting its borders and allowing Chechen rebels to flee into the Pankisi Gorge area in northern Georgia. Russia considers the Chechen rebels to be terrorists and wants the government of Georgia to play a more active role in deterring the rebels from entering a safe haven.

President Eduard Shevardnadze, the president of Georgia, requested assistance from the United States to enhance its counter-terrorism capabilities and address the situation in the Pankisi Gorge. In April of 2002, the Department of Defense announced the beginning of the Georgia Train and Equip Program to fulfill Shevardnadze's request.

The Marines are scheduled to train

a total of four battalion-sized elements during the entire training evolution. Each battalion will receive instruction in a specific area of training. The first battalion will receive instruction in mountain warfare operations, the second and third battalions in light infantry operations, and the fourth battalion will receive training in mechanized warfare.

Each battalion is similar to a Marine Corps rifle battalion and is comprised of three rifle companies, a headquarters company, and consists of about 560 personnel. A common factor to all of the battalions is that they have recently been created and have not received substantial infantry training.

Coordinating the unique training effort is Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jon Athey, battalion gunner who is deployed from 3rd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment.

"Our mission is to train the Georgian 16th Mountain Battalion in small arms usage, weapons and tactics, and basic infantry tactics that they can use in mountainous terrain," said Athey.

Four Marine trainers consisting of an officer, a staff noncommissioned officer, and two noncommissioned officers will be assigned to each Georgian company. Daily training will follow an established program of instruction, and the three teams of Marine trainers are directly responsible for their designated companies, said Athey.

Another unique aspect of the training syllabus is "for the first time we are taking a fighting force trained in the Soviet doctrine with Soviet weapons and are teaching them our tactics," said Athey.

Prior to arriving in Georgia, the Marine cadre spent time with special forces at Fort Bragg, N.C., to get familiar with the weapons they will be instructing with. Once the Marines arrived in Georgia, they conducted familiarization fires with all of the weapons to be used in the training process.

The Marine detachment and Task Force GTEP personnel are operating from a base camp 25 kilometers from the Georgian capital of Tbilisi. The joint operation also includes forces from the U.S. European Command. A Forward Surgical Team from the U.S. Army is on hand to provide medical support as required and a detachment of communication soldiers from the U.S. Army's 7th Signal Brigade is participating in the operation.

Nestled near the Iloguja Mountain, which resembles the mountains at Camp Pendleton, the Marines are preparing to start the training program with an opening ceremony taking place Feb. 1.

The GTEP program is a U.S. European Command-sponsored operation and is scheduled to end during the summer of 2004. More information about GTEP can be found on the European Command Web site www.eucom.mil, click on the operations link.



Photo by Master Sgt. Phil Mehringer

Sgt. Jeremy Garcia, GTEP tactical trainer, adds rounds to complete a 200 round belt of 7.62x54mm ammunition to be fired in the PKM, a soviet-era medium machine gun.

MCB jumps on projects

Missions of top priority handled ahead of schedule

By Cpl. Joshua Barnhardt
Editor

Maintenance Center Barstow recently completed two top priority missions in two different locations, ahead of schedule.

Bill Winegar, senior production supervisor from heavy mobile equipment, led a team of MCB employees who went to Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton to complete modifications on 18 M-9 Ace vehicles; and Gary Heidorn, leader at the Paxman engine shop, supervised the rebuilding of four bridges at the Maintenance Center.

The M-9 Aces just needed tweaking, while the bridges had to be completely overhauled.

"The M-9 Ace is a combat earth mover. We modified a suspension and a sprocket drive gear that made it more mission capable," said Winegar. "The bridges were almost a complete rebuild. They were used in the Gulf War and were returned in very used condition."

The M-9 Ace project was thrown on MCB with very short notice.

"We had about three days to get the orders, reservations and travel commitments ready to head to Camp Pendleton," said Winegar. "That took a tremendous commitment from our travel people here and our people upstairs."

Some hoops had to be jumped through by certain people to make sure the team going to Camp Pendleton would have the necessary gear to complete the job.

"Sheryl Forsythe in the purchasing department supported us with parts that were necessary," said Winegar. "She went out on some direct purchases and got us some parts and equipment we needed to support the line."

Once the team members got to Camp Pendleton, they were put on two rotating 12-hour shifts. They worked around the clock for nine days, said Winegar.

Even though the deadline date for the projects kept moving forward, the projects were still done on time.

One of the four bridges rebuilt by the Maintenance Center sits finished, awaiting shipment.



Photo by Cpl. Joshua Barnhardt

"The original required date was Jan. 23, that was revised to Jan. 18, then moved to Jan. 15, and we completed both operations on Jan. 13," said Winegar.

Both projects were labeled Priority 01, which is the highest priority level in the Department of Defense.

"Priority 01 takes precedence over everything we do," said Winegar. "We have a master work schedule that is filled out for the entire year and we stop all that work and immediately use whatever resources are necessary to complete the Priority 01 project."

Priority 01 projects are very rare.

"I've been here in Barstow for eight years and this is the first Priority 01 project I have seen," said Winegar.

The bridges were a challenging job for MCB. They had to be completely rebuilt, with no existing parts around to use. They had been built about 40 years ago in Israel and had been sitting dormant at the Yermo Annex since the Persian Gulf War, according to Heidorn.

"The bridges were out in the lot by the fence line, covered in sand," said Heidorn. "They dug them out of the sand on Dec. 31 and started working on them on Jan. 1."

Some of the original parts were also missing from the bridges.

"A couple of axle assemblies were missing, and we had no tires or wheels," said Heidorn. "All the pins holding the bridges together were gone as well."

Using all available resources, MCB put the bridges together.

"We had to make a lot of the parts from scratch," said Heidorn. "We had one complete bridge and we used the parts

from that bridge as models to fabricate the new parts."

Parts were even borrowed from other apparatuses at MCB.

"We didn't have any wheels or tires, so we used wheels off a 5-ton truck and we special ordered the tires," said Heidorn.

Even with all the setbacks to getting the bridges rebuilt, MCB still made its deadline.

"The whole project was completed in 15 days," said Heidorn.

Since it was a Priority 01 job, almost all of MCB was involved.

"I think the bridges were here for maybe a week," said Winegar. "That involved many people here at the depot, from welders to painters to sandblasters to mechanics."

"There were about 120 people involved in the process," said Heidorn. "Everybody involved did a great job."

Coming together as a team, the employees involved with the projects impressed the supervisors.

"I just can't say enough of the teamwork and synergism of the depot and the people that took on this commitment," said Winegar. "It wasn't the supervisors, it was the true commitment of the Civilian Marines that got this project done."



Photo by Cpl. Joshua Barnhardt

A bridge sits in the blasting shop after it has been sandblasted. The next step for the bridge would be receiving a paint job.



One of the many crewmembers assigned to the M-9 Ace project was working on the suspension. The crew finished 18 M-9 Aces in 15 days.



(Above) Two workers adjust a wheel mount on an M-9 Ace.

(Right) Some crewmembers get deep into the suspension of an M-9 Ace.



Official USMC photo

project works on a modifica-
a nine-day period.



Official USMC photo

The tracks on the M-9 Ace vehicles being worked on are laid out to provide easy access for the workers to get to the suspension. The project was worked on by the crew for 24 hours a day in two shifts.



Official USMC photo

ce.
on of an M-9 Ace to make modifications.



Official USMC photo

Holiday weight loss contest produces winners

Submitted by Jennifer Patterson
Health Promotions Coordinator

At the first of every year folks tend to make resolutions that, for the most part, eventually are forgotten or just go by the wayside.

MCLB Barstow's Health Promotions coordinator, Jennifer Wales, decided to help folks get an early jump on their New Year's resolution by putting together a holiday weight loss contest.

The contest period began at the end of October and ended Jan. 15. Initially, the program started with 36 participants but only 20 made it to the final weigh-in. According to Wales, the class lost more than 75 pounds, 27 percent of body fat, and 68 inches.

Coming out on top was Ceferino Morabe, base telephone technician, who lost the most body weight, body fat percentage and inches.

After the overall winner, the winner for most weight loss was Leslie Hunt, computer specialist, Base Network Systems Branch. Next up for the most percentage of body fat lost was Barbara Rodriguez, of Contracting and Purchasing, and the winner for most inches lost was Monica Sims, also of Contracting and Purchasing.

Weekly classes for the contest were held and began Nov. 19 with a class in overall program design, basically how to design an effective weight loss program. After the introductory class the participants were given classes on weight loss,

nutrition, and putting together an exercise program, which included weight training, strength conditioning and group workouts.

Want to get in on the action? Contact Jennifer Wales, Health Promotions Coordinator, at 577-6817.



Photo by Rob Jackson

Ceferino Morabe Jr., Monica Sims, and Barbara Rodriguez, winners of the Holiday Weight Loss contest pose with Jennifer Wales, MCLB Health Promotions Coordinator. Leslie Hunt, not pictured, was also a winner in the contest which went from Oct. 31 to Jan 15.

Gunny's Picks

End of Season



Let's give a shout out to Janet Wilson, QA Specialist with Public Works, the winner of this week's Gunny's Pick.

Wilson picked Tampa Bay to take the win over Oakland and total points.

To the Raider faithful, Wilson, who has been a regular in this column, said, "Unfortunately somebody has to win and somebody has to lose. Better luck next year.

"Go Tampa!"

When you pit the number one defense against the number one offense something has to give. On this day it had to be Oakland's vaunted offense that gave in to the Buccaneer's relent-

less defense.

Fear not Raider fans, your team has had a tendency all season of bouncing back when it looked like it was down for the count. At one point during the Super Bowl it looked like the Raiders may do just that. All it took was the league's Most Valuable Player to throw two fourth-quarter touchdowns. Unfortunately, they were thrown to the Buc's defensive backs.

With that, the Swami said he wouldn't dance in the streets or brag about his Super Bowl pick, but he had to get his dig in somewhere.

Overall, this has been a great season with an amazing ending. To all the folks who participated in this year's Gunny's Picks, thanks for keeping it interesting. We'll look to pick this up next season. Until then, have a great off-season and congratulations to all of this season's winners, great job.



By Jim Gaines
MCCS Publicity

Two Day Extravaganza

On Monday and Tuesday, the Super Seven Day Store will be providing free food, drinks and special gas prices on this two-day extravaganza. Discounts of 10 percent off TVs, 20 percent off coffee makers and food processors, 30 percent off jackets, 40 percent off men's and women's pants, 50 percent off short-sleeve shirts, and 75 percent off on selected items throughout the store.

The Super Seven Store is open Mondays through Fridays from 6:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sundays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Lunch menu

Unless otherwise indicated, the lunch menu for the Family Restau-

rant and Cactus Cafe are the same.

Today – Beef fajitas, flour tortillas, Mexican rice and refried beans.

Friday – Grilled/fried fish day. Served with steamed or fried rice.

Monday – Chicken tenders, steak fries and cole slaw.

Tuesday – Yankee Pot Roast with steamed rice.

Wednesday – Sliced pork roast, mashed potatoes and gravy.

Thursday – Italian wedding soup with chef salad.

Family Night Dining

Wednesday – Meatloaf and gravy, mashed potatoes, tossed green salad, drink of your choice and dessert.

Price: Adults pay \$5.50 (Price is the same for military and civilian), children (5 to 11 years) pay \$3.50. Children under 5 years are free. Everyone is welcome. Bring the family and friends and enjoy Family Night Dining.

MCCS Presidents Day Holiday Schedule

Feb. 17

MCCS Administration - Closed.

NAF Personnel - Closed.

MCCS Finance Office - Closed.

Semper Fit/Base Gym - 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Personal Services - All PSD programs closed.

Family Restaurant - Holiday hours 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Cactus Cafe - Closed.

Oasis Club - Closed.

Enlisted Club - Regular hours. Doors open 4:30 p.m.

ITT - Closed.

Golf Course - Open 7 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Hobby Shops (Auto, Ceramic and Wood/Rock) - Closed Feb. 16 as well as Feb. 17.

Bowling Center - Closed Feb. 16 as well as Feb. 17.

Super Seven Store - Feb. 14, open 6:30 a.m. - 6 p.m., Feb. 15 - 17 open 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Railhead Exchange - Closed.



For more information, please call MCCS at 577-6733

CHAPLAIN from Page 2

Yet, someone is responsible, someone broke a trust that person had and pushed him or her toward not trusting people.

Where and how it happened is not too important, but that it happened and that it could have been avoided is important.

So here is the punch line. Think about your actions and how they affect others.

Know that no matter how de-

tached you think you are, someone is watching you and is going to react to what you do.

Be the one who teaches someone how to trust instead of someone who teaches how to be wary.

Be the one who teaches someone how to care for others instead of someone who teaches how to turn a blind eye.

Be the one who takes a chance on doing the right thing and others will learn from you.

Peace,
Fr Randel

Annual Notification of Right to Representation

Pursuant to Section 7114 (a) (2) (b) of Title V, U. S. Code, as amended by the Civil Service Reform Act (PL 95-454) this is to inform you that the AFGE Local 1482 shall be given the opportunity to be represented at any examination of a bargaining unit employee of a management representative in connection with an investigation if:

(a) The employee reasonably believes that the examination may result in disciplinary action against the employee; AND

(b) The employee requests representation.

TAX from Page 1

- All W-2s, 1099-Rs, 1099-INT and/or other income reporting documents;

- The birth date and social security cards (not just the numbers) of the taxpayer and all dependants;

- A voided blank check for direct deposit information;

- Last year's federal tax return and state tax return;

- EIN or SSN of any day care provider, and the providers name, address and total cost of day care;

- Power of attorney if filing for someone else.

The OSJA is located in Building 236. For an appointment to answer questions or file taxes, call the OSJA at 577-6874.

SAFETY from Page 2

A corporal from 3rd Battalion, 10th Marines was also struck and killed while riding a motorcycle. And finally, a lance corporal from VMFA (AW)-332 died from injuries sustained as a passenger in a vehicle driven by his wife, a fellow Marine.

Suicides.

Two Marines died in apparent suicides this month.

A sergeant from BLT 3/1, 11th MEU was found in quarters after an apparent suicide by hanging.

A corporal from F Company, 2/5 was discovered in his vehicle with a self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head.

Injuries

Two Marines sustained serious on-duty injuries in December.

A lance corporal from 3/6 suffered two fractures and a dislocated right ankle during a fast rope landing.

A private first class from 1st CEB suffered extensive lacerations and possible loss of portions of his little finger after his hand was caught in a fan belt during maintenance repairs on a generator.

Eight Marines were seriously injured in off-duty mishaps. Once again, the overwhelming majority of the mishaps, six, occurred in automobiles, one was a pedestrian mishap, and the last was an off-duty recreation mishap.

A summary of the mishaps is as follows: A sergeant from MATSG-53 suffered a closed head injury in a single vehicle accident.

Two lance corporals on leave from 7th ESB, 1st FSSG, not wearing seatbelts, were ejected from their vehicle during an accident, when the driver fell asleep.

The driver is in critical condition, and the passenger is listed in stable condition.

A corporal from 1st Battalion, 8th Marines suffered several breaks in his right leg and an unknown number of fractures to his facial area after a single vehicle accident.

A private first class from MATSG-21 severed his spinal cord, resulting in paralysis after he was ejected from his vehicle during a single vehicle accident.

While walking to his barracks from the enlisted club a private first class from 3d Battalion, 7th Marines was struck by a vehicle. His injuries included a compound fracture, broken pelvis, and unknown degrees of head trauma.

And finally, a lance corporal from 1st Battalion, 3rd Marines suffered a dislocated hip and fractured vertebra when he fell 60 feet while engaged in off-duty recreational rappelling.

Aviation.

An AV-8B from VMA-532 inadvertently jettisoned a 500-pound inert bomb approximately 500 meters

from a civilian house during training. There was no damage to persons or property on the ground.

Mixed news

Last fiscal year this time, 17 Marines died in on-duty ground and off-duty accidents. This fiscal year, 24 Marines have died in on-duty ground and off-duty accidents. This trend is unacceptable.

Again, private motor vehicle accidents continue to be our leading cause of death in the Marine Corps.

The majority of these accidents were the direct result of Marines and sailors who either made poor decisions, or became the victim of someone else's poor decisions.

Excessive speed, fatigue, alcohol, failure to wear a seatbelt, and driving don't mix.

I commend those of you who continue to make smart decisions on a daily basis and ask that you help your leaders promote proactive risk management to those who have not yet grasped the message.

As your 33rd commandant, you should know that I am deeply committed to ensuring that safety is embedded in all that we do.

These trends must be attacked head-on and reversed. We can do this - let's make it happen.

Semper fidelis, M. W. Hagee, General, U.S. Marine Corps, Commandant of the Marine Corps.

1995 GEO METRO: White, smog good until April 2003, auto trans, a/c, 4 doors, tinted windows, 60k miles, \$3,500. Call 252-7009.

1977 TOYOTA LAND CRUISER: FJ-40, 6 Cyl. 4x4, custom dash with gauges, 32" BFG's, vehicle on a non-op, runs great and ready for anything, \$3,500 OBO. Call (760) 447-7312 lv msg.

1966 DODGE STATION WAGON: 383 engine, auto, air, runs, needs TLC, \$1,200. Call 254-1913.

MISCELLANEOUS: Five tires for sale in good condition, various sizes. Call (760) 447-8703 (local number).

MISCELLANEOUS: Tires - 32x12.50R-15 BFGs muds, like new with 90% tread, \$450; wheels-polished 14" 5-star, generic lug pattern, \$300. Call (760) 447-7312 lv msg.

MISCELLANEOUS: 5-light brass arc floor lamp, \$25; pair of oak end tables with glass inserts \$30. Call 255-4339.

MISCELLANEOUS: Book, "Chicken Soup for the Woman's Soul," \$8. Call Jennifer, 447-8706.

MISCELLANEOUS: New golf clubs, bag, and accessories, \$125; Corvair eng. \$125; Volkswagen, all 4 mag rims \$55; aluminum awning for car-port or patio, \$110; Ford Ranger tail-gate, \$50. Call 254-1913.

GARAGE SALE: Feb. 1, 2003, 512 S. 1st Ave, 7-?, furniture, clothes, tools, too much to mention.

Ad Placement

Non-business BARSTOW LOG Classified Ads are free for base employees and active or retired service members and their family members. Non-business ads may be submitted to:

editor@barstow.usmc.mil

To place business-related adds call:

Aerotech News and Review
(661) 945-5634

